



Rustically RESTORED

An 1800s cottage gets a dose of farmhouse style to enhance its country charm.

By Kathleen Birmingham
Photography by Matthew Millman
Styling by Suzanne Tucker



An Artist's Retreat

A vine-covered doorway welcomes you into the art studio. Drawing a pale yellow and peach color palette directly from the garden outside, interior designer Suzanne Tucker created a peaceful and timeless space using vintage textiles and reclaimed materials for the beams, floorboards and antique doors.



Harmonious Balance

Mixing newly crafted rugs with an antique Chinese rug gives the living room a feeling of grace and age. The Venetian plastered walls are painted in rich tones of ochre and terracotta. Rare French 19th-century wooden wine pitchers sit near the sideboard topped with a bird's nest, bowl of lavender and snail—all serving as reminders of nature's beauty (see opposite page). A reproduction mantle and trumeau were created out of cast stone.



Exuding old-world charm of yesteryear, an 1800s stone house remains to this day one of interior designer Suzanne Tucker's favorite projects. Cozy and inviting, every room welcomes you to rest, relax and reflect. Flora and fauna provided the idea for the home's theme; Suzanne added nature-inspired touches down to every last door handle, lamp and wall sconce.



Bringing the Outdoors In

An unusual Chinese gnarled root bench creates unique corner seating. A color palette of blue and red unites all the room's components, from the vintage Palladian-style cupboard to the handwoven rug. A leaf motif is a nod to the home's nature-inspired theme, repeating even at the ends of the curtain rods.

"When working with a designer, it is important for them to understand more than your favorite color or style, and to really get into what your passions are. What makes you tick? You may not even know it. My job as a designer is to create their dreams beyond their biggest dream," Suzanne says.

She uses many items already in a homeowner's collection to surround them with the items they love. "It's not just about pretty stuff; it's about making people happy. Your home is where you spend your time, where you create your memories. A home is so much more than a collection of items."

Suzanne often incorporates high-end pieces with bargain secondhand finds. "Not everything has to be the most expensive or the fanciest. Balance it out with something a little funky or something that speaks to you at a flea market; put it on your grandmother's mahogany chest. Suddenly, the two speak so differently. The intention for this home was to have it look as if everything had been found and collected over time."

See Sources, page 128.



Mellow in Yellow

When passing by the terrace's stone fountain, visitors are immediately embraced in magical comfort. With the look of climbing vines, 1940s Italian basket sconces flank the entryway, and vintage textiles and distressed parquet floors exude classic elegance in this country cottage.



Farmhouse Infusion

The country farmhouse-style kitchen's distressed stone floors and reclaimed beams make the room feel aged to perfection. An étagère holds the extensive majolica collection. The coffee table in the adjoining sitting area is an antique oval wooden French wine tasting table, circa 1860. Tom Holland bug plates decorate the wall above next to a family heirloom—the pastoral painting.



A master bedroom with a four-poster bed, red walls, and a wooden beam ceiling. The bed is dressed in a peach-colored quilt and white pillows with peach-colored piping. The bed is framed by floral-patterned curtains. A striped ottoman sits at the foot of the bed. To the left, a white nightstand holds a vase of white flowers and books. To the right, a dark wood armoire holds a framed picture and a chair with a peach-colored seat. The room has a warm, inviting atmosphere.

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Peachy Keen

The multicolored textiles in the master bedroom inspired the wall color choice—a deep, rich persimmon. Look outside the newly renovated dormer windows to see the garden and treetops. The rare Italian Provincial walnut Libreria is most likely Tuscan, circa 18th century. Meanwhile, the bronze snail and carved birds sit atop a charming table beside a creature-encrusted 19th-century Palissy ware pitcher.